



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
LANSING

JOHN E. NIXON, CPA  
DIRECTOR

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Date: January 7, 2014

Contact: Kurt Weiss, 517-335-0050

# **November Jobless Rates Decline in Most of Michigan's Regional Labor Markets**

*Northern Area Rates Increase Seasonally*

*Lansing* – Seasonally unadjusted unemployment rates in November declined in 14 major labor market regions and increased in three, according to the Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. Total employment rose in most areas over the month, while labor force levels declined seasonally in the majority of regions.

"November fluctuations in Michigan's local labor markets were mostly minor in the southern part of the state and seasonal in the northern areas," said Michael Williams, acting director of the Bureau of Labor Market Information & Strategic Initiatives. "Payroll job changes were typical for this time of year, with job cuts in tourism-related industries and construction somewhat offset by gains in retail trade."

From October to November, the jobless rate reductions in the 14 regions were moderate, ranging from 0.4 to 0.8 of a percentage point with a median decline of 0.7 of a percentage point. Unemployment rates advanced seasonally in Michigan's three northernmost labor market regions. November rates rose by 0.9 of a percentage point in the Northeast Lower Michigan region, 0.4 of a percentage point in the Upper Peninsula, and by 0.2 of a percentage point in the Northwest Lower Michigan region.

## ***Jobless Rates Mixed Over Year***

From the January to November 2012 average to the January to November 2013 average, regional unemployment rates were mixed with only moderate changes in most areas. Over this period, jobless rates were up in eight areas, down in seven, and unchanged in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) and the Northwest Lower Michigan region. Rate increases over this period were 0.5 of a percentage point or less, with a small median gain of 0.2 of a percentage point. The median decline was a minor 0.3 of a percentage point, with the largest rate decreases displayed in the Detroit-Warren-Livonia (-0.9) and Grand Rapids-Wyoming (-0.4) MSAs.

## ***Total Employment Up Over Month, Year***

From October to November, total employment rose in 12 regions and declined in five. The median increase over the month was 0.7 percent with the largest gains posted in the Ann Arbor and Lansing-East Lansing MSAs. The only notable November employment reductions on a percentage basis were registered in the state's three northernmost regions, with drops of around 2.0 percent or more.

From November 2012 to November 2013, total employment rose in 12 Michigan regions with a median gain of 1.0 percent. The most pronounced employment advances over the year were posted in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming (+3.2%), Detroit-Warren-Livonia (+2.3%), and Holland-Grand Haven (+2.2%) MSAs. Declines since November 2012 in the five remaining regions were mostly minor, averaging 0.5 percent.

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### ***Labor Force Levels Down Over Month, Up Over Year***

From October to November, workforce levels fell seasonally in ten regions, rose slightly in five areas, and were essentially unchanged in two.

Over the year, labor force levels rose in 16 Michigan regions with a median gain of 1.0 percent. The labor force level in the Niles-Benton Harbor MSA was essentially unchanged since November 2012.

### ***Seasonal Patterns Dominate November Payroll Job Change***

The monthly survey of employers indicated that seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs in Michigan declined by 8,000 or 0.2 percent in November to 4,139,000. Seasonal job cuts in leisure and hospitality services (-16,000) and construction (-7,000) were somewhat offset by a seasonal job gain in trade, transportation and utilities (+14,000). The remaining industry sectors in the state recorded mostly minor payroll job changes in November.

Within the trade, transportation and utilities sector, retail trade jobs rose by 11,000 in November as merchants continued to hire for the holiday season. Retail trade jobs displayed a 6,000 gain over the November 2012 level.

From October to November, payroll jobs increased in ten of the 14 metropolitan areas in the state, with an average addition of 0.6 percent. Four metro regions reported job declines in November averaging about a half percent. All 14 metropolitan areas recorded advances in retail trade jobs, while nearly all areas registered drops in leisure and hospitality services and construction.

From November 2012 to November 2013, seasonally unadjusted payroll jobs increased statewide by 60,000 or 1.5 percent. Payroll jobs rose over the year in most of Michigan's major industry sectors led by increases in manufacturing (+19,000), professional and business services (+18,000) and trade, transportation and utilities (+13,000). Other notable gains were posted in leisure and hospitality services (+8,000), and education and health services (+6,000).

Since November 2012, payroll jobs rose in 11 metropolitan regions with a median advance of 1.6 percent. The largest over-the-year percentage job increases were recorded in the Grand Rapids-Wyoming, Holland-Grand Haven, and Muskegon-Norton Shores MSAs. Overall payroll jobs declined slightly over the year in the Bay City, Niles-Benton Harbor and Saginaw-Saginaw Township North MSAs.

### ***County Jobless Rates Down Over Month, Up Slightly Over Year***

Fifty-four of Michigan's 83 counties recorded moderate unemployment rate reductions in November with a median decrease of 0.5 of a percentage point. In November, rates rose in 27 counties and were unchanged in two. The majority of over-the-month rate advances occurred in the state's northern counties.

From the January to November 2012 average to the January to November 2013 average, unemployment rates increased in 46 counties, declined in 28 counties and were unchanged in nine. Jobless rate changes were relatively minor over this period, with advances averaging 0.5 of a percentage point and declines averaging 0.4 of a percentage point.

*Note: Data in this release is **not seasonally adjusted**. As a result, employment and unemployment trends may differ from previously released Michigan seasonally adjusted data.*

A breakdown of seasonally unadjusted November workforce estimates for Michigan and its 17 major labor market areas follows, along with a listing of county jobless rates for November.

*Note to Editors: Please ensure that the source for state unemployment rates reads "Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget."*

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>ANN ARBOR MSA</b> (Washtenaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	184,000	185,400	187,300	1.0%	1.8%
Total Employment	175,700	174,300	177,400	1.8%	1.0%
Unemployment	8,300	11,100	10,000	-9.9%	20.5%
Rate (percent)	4.5	6.0	5.3		

Contact: Mark Reffitt, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 492-5550

	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BATTLE CREEK MSA</b> (Calhoun County)					
Civilian Labor Force	63,400	63,900	64,000	0.2%	0.9%
Total Employment	59,600	59,400	59,800	0.7%	0.3%
Unemployment	3,800	4,600	4,100	-10.9%	7.9%
Rate (percent)	6.0	7.2	6.5		

Contact: Leonidas Murembya, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 841-5634

	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>BAY CITY MSA</b> (Bay County)					
Civilian Labor Force	51,600	51,900	51,800	-0.2%	0.4%
Total Employment	48,000	47,500	47,700	0.4%	-0.6%
Unemployment	3,600	4,400	4,100	-6.8%	13.9%
Rate (percent)	7.0	8.4	7.9		

Contact: Jeff Aula, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3144

	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>DETROIT-WARREN-LIVONIA MSA</b> <b>(Data in thousands)</b> (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Lapeer, Livingston, St. Clair counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	2,000	2,035	2,015	-1.0%	0.8%
Total Employment	1,806	1,852	1,848	-0.2%	2.3%
Unemployment	194	183	168	-8.2%	-13.4%
Rate (percent)	9.7	9.0	8.3		

Contact: Jim Rhein, DTMB Economic Analyst (313) 456-3095

	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>FLINT MSA</b> (Genesee County)					
Civilian Labor Force	182,400	185,800	186,400	0.3%	2.2%
Total Employment	167,500	167,700	169,600	1.1%	1.3%
Unemployment	14,900	18,000	16,800	-6.7%	12.8%
Rate (percent)	8.2	9.7	9.0		

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(more)

Page 4, November Rates

	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>GRAND RAPIDS - WYOMING MSA</b>					
(Barry, Ionia, Kent, Newaygo counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	389,300	402,500	402,200	-0.1%	3.3%
Total Employment	367,800	377,300	379,500	0.6%	3.2%
Unemployment	21,400	25,300	22,700	-10.3%	6.1%
Rate (percent)	5.5	6.3	5.6		

Contact: Jason Palmer, DTMB Regional Economic Analyst (517) 335-5267

	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>HOLLAND - GRAND HAVEN MSA</b>					
(Ottawa County)					
Civilian Labor Force	129,900	133,600	133,200	-0.3%	2.5%
Total Employment	122,800	125,000	125,500	0.4%	2.2%
Unemployment	7,100	8,600	7,700	-10.5%	8.5%
Rate (percent)	5.5	6.4	5.8		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>JACKSON MSA</b>					
(Jackson County)					
Civilian Labor Force	69,500	70,300	70,500	0.3%	1.4%
Total Employment	64,500	64,300	64,800	0.8%	0.5%
Unemployment	5,000	6,100	5,600	-8.2%	12.0%
Rate (percent)	7.2	8.6	8.0		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>KALAMAZOO - PORTAGE MSA</b>					
(Kalamazoo and Van Buren counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	159,800	162,300	162,300	0.0%	1.6%
Total Employment	149,900	150,500	151,500	0.7%	1.1%
Unemployment	9,900	11,800	10,800	-8.5%	9.1%
Rate (percent)	6.2	7.3	6.7		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>LANSING - EAST LANSING MSA</b>					
(Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	231,900	234,100	234,300	0.1%	1.0%
Total Employment	218,400	217,500	219,600	1.0%	0.5%
Unemployment	13,600	16,600	14,600	-12.0%	7.4%
Rate (percent)	5.8	7.1	6.3		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MONROE MSA</b>					
(Monroe County)					
Civilian Labor Force	68,400	69,400	69,200	-0.3%	1.2%
Total Employment	63,900	64,100	64,200	0.2%	0.5%
Unemployment	4,500	5,300	5,000	-5.7%	11.1%
Rate (percent)	6.6	7.7	7.3		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MUSKEGON - NORTON SHORES MSA</b>					
(Muskegon County)					
Civilian Labor Force	82,500	84,600	84,600	0.0%	2.5%
Total Employment	76,300	77,200	77,900	0.9%	2.1%
Unemployment	6,200	7,400	6,700	-9.5%	8.1%
Rate (percent)	7.5	8.7	7.9		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NILES - BENTON HARBOR MSA</b>					
(Berrien County)					
Civilian Labor Force	71,500	72,000	71,500	-0.7%	0.0%
Total Employment	66,100	65,800	65,700	-0.2%	-0.6%
Unemployment	5,400	6,200	5,800	-6.5%	7.4%
Rate (percent)	7.5	8.6	8.1		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>SAGINAW-Saginaw Township North MSA</b>					
(Saginaw County)					
Civilian Labor Force	89,500	90,100	90,000	-0.1%	0.6%
Total Employment	83,000	82,100	82,700	0.7%	-0.4%
Unemployment	6,400	8,000	7,300	-8.8%	14.1%
Rate (percent)	7.2	8.9	8.1		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>UPPER PENINSULA LMA</b>					
(15 counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	143,500	147,100	145,000	-1.4%	1.0%
Total Employment	132,300	134,500	132,000	-1.9%	-0.2%
Unemployment	11,100	12,700	13,000	2.4%	17.1%
Rate (percent)	7.8	8.6	9.0		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>NORTHEAST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>					
(Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	82,300	84,600	83,400	-1.4%	1.3%
Total Employment	74,300	75,500	73,600	-2.5%	-0.9%
Unemployment	8,100	9,100	9,700	6.6%	19.8%
Rate (percent)	9.8	10.8	11.7		

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<b>NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN</b>					
(Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford counties)					
Civilian Labor Force	139,600	144,400	141,200	-2.2%	1.1%
Total Employment	127,900	131,400	128,300	-2.4%	0.3%
Unemployment	11,700	12,900	13,000	0.8%	11.1%
Rate (percent)	8.4	9.0	9.2		

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	<u>Nov-12</u>	<u>Oct-13</u>	<u>Nov-13</u>	% change month	% change year
<b>MICHIGAN (Data in thousands)</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	4,627	4,711	4,683	-0.6%	1.2%
Total Employment	4,256	4,317	4,318	0.0%	1.5%
Unemployment	371	393	365	-7.1%	-1.6%
Rate (percent)	8.0	8.3	7.8		

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**Note:**

The table above contains **seasonally unadjusted** data for Michigan for 2013 and 2012, which should be used in comparison with data for Michigan regions or counties.

DTMB released earlier the **seasonally adjusted** November 2013 unemployment rate for Michigan (8.8 percent), which is best used for:

- Identifying recent Michigan workforce trends
- Conducting comparisons with unemployment rates for the U.S. and other states

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# **MICHIGAN COUNTIES RANKED BY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE NOVEMBER 2013**

1	Barry County	5.2	43	St. Clair County	8.9
2	Clinton County	5.3	44	Genesee County	9.0
3	Eaton County	5.3	45	Kalkaska County	9.2
4	Washtenaw County	5.3	46	Sanilac County	9.2
5	Kent County	5.5	47	Wayne County	9.3
6	Ottawa County	5.8	48	Iron County	9.5
7	Isabella County	6.0	49	Gogebic County	9.6
8	Allegan County	6.3	50	Lapeer County	9.6
9	Kalamazoo County	6.3	51	Tuscola County	9.6
10	Ionia County	6.4	52	Montcalm County	9.7
11	Calhoun County	6.5	53	Osceola County	9.9
12	Leelanau County	6.5	54	Manistee County	10.0
13	Menominee County	6.5	55	Crawford County	10.1
14	Midland County	6.7	56	Oceana County	10.5
15	Grand Traverse County	6.8	57	Ogemaw County	10.5
16	Ingham County	6.9	58	Benzie County	10.6
17	Livingston County	7.0	59	Charlevoix County	10.7
18	Marquette County	7.1	60	Wexford County	10.8
19	Dickinson County	7.2	61	Luce County	11.0
20	Huron County	7.2	62	Otsego County	11.0
21	St. Joseph County	7.2	63	Alger County	11.1
22	Monroe County	7.3	64	Chippewa County	11.1
23	Newaygo County	7.3	65	Clare County	11.1
24	Oakland County	7.3	66	Antrim County	11.2
25	Macomb County	7.8	67	Iosco County	11.2
26	Bay County	7.9	68	Roscommon County	11.3
27	Houghton County	7.9	69	Missaukee County	11.5
28	Muskegon County	7.9	70	Emmet County	11.8
29	Jackson County	8.0	71	Gladwin County	12.1
30	Mecosta County	8.0	72	Arenac County	12.2
31	Berrien County	8.1	73	Lake County	12.2
32	Branch County	8.1	74	Schoolcraft County	12.8
33	Cass County	8.1	75	Ontonagon County	13.2
34	Saginaw County	8.1	76	Cheboygan County	13.4
35	Van Buren County	8.1	77	Presque Isle County	13.7
36	Gratiot County	8.3	78	Alcona County	14.9
37	Lenawee County	8.3	79	Baraga County	15.3
38	Shiawassee County	8.5	80	Montmorency County	15.3
39	Hillsdale County	8.6	81	Keweenaw County	15.4
40	Alpena County	8.8	82	Mackinac County	15.8
41	Mason County	8.8	83	Oscoda County	17.6
42	Delta County	8.9			

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